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Message Text

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E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: AORG, OCON, SOCI
SUBJECT: CPC 18TH SESSION FIRST PART: PROGRAM EVALUATION OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS. USDEL REPORT #12.

1. SUMMARY: THE COMMITTEE FOR PROGRAM COORDINATION (CPC) CONSIDERED THE EVALUATION REPORT ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS PROGRAM FOR THE PERIOD 1974 - 77 FROM JUNE 6 - 9. THE COMMITTEE'S THOROUGHGOING REVIEW OF THE PROGRAM OF THE CENTER FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT AND HUMANITARIAN AFFAIRS (CSDHA) HIGHLIGHTED THE WEAKNESSES OF INTERNAL EVALUATION. END SUMMARY.

2. DURING GENERAL COMMENTS ON THE EVALUATION CONTAINED IN DOCUMENT E/AC.51/91/ADD.2 (PART 1) US (CUNNINGHAM) NOTED THAT SINCE TECHNICAL COOPERATION WAS LEFT UNEVALUATED NEARLY 50 O/O OF THE PROGRAM WAS UNCOVERED IN THE REPORT. US WOULD LIKE TO KNOW THE EFFECT ON SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT PROGRAM OF RESTRUCTURING AND WOULD PREFER THAT ALL ASPECTS OF THIS WIDELY SCATTERED
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FIELD WERE BROUGHT TOGETHER. AS IT CURRENTLY STOOD THERE WAS NO SYSTEM-WIDE COORDINATION ON THE WHOLE RANGE OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT ISSUES AND NO CENTRAL POINT OF CONTROL WITHIN THE SECRETARIAT. US SUGGESTED THAT PERHAPS THERE SHOULD BE INTERREGIONAL ADVISERS WHO COULD REPRESENT AND COORDINATE NOT ONLY CSDHA PROGRAMS BUT ALL ASPECTS OF UN SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT

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PROGRAMS. US ALSO FELT THAT CSDHA WAS NOT
RESPONSIVE TO EXERCISE BASED ON HYPOTHETICAL 20P
SLASH IN FUNDING FOR PROGRAMS WHEREAS IT WAS MUCH
MORE ENTHUSIASTIC ABOUT THE HYPOTHETICAL 20P INCREASE.

3. BOTH JAPAN AND BELGIUM SAID THAT IT WAS A VERY
OPTIMISTIC EVALUATION WITH BELGIUM ADDING THAT IT COULD
NOT SEE FROM THE REPORT AS TO HOW ACTIVITIES WERE TO BE
CARRIED OUT. THE PROGRAMS LACKED CONVERGENCE AND UNITY.
BELGIUM BELIEVED THAT EXTERNAL EVALUATION AS CONDUCTED
BY INSPECTOR BERTRAND WAS PREFERABLE TO INTERNAL
EVALUATIONS WHICH LEAD TO THE TEMPTATION TO REPORT
THAT ALL THINGS ARE GOING WELL AND BEING DONE PROPERLY.
UK INTERJECTED THAT IN ITS OPINION NEARLY 30P OF
CSDHA'S ACTIVITIES WERE LEFT UNEVALUATED BY THE REPORT.

4. IN REPLY TO STATEMENTS, SENIOR SOCIAL AFFAIRS OFFICER
DESMOND SAID THAT THE CSDHA FOLLOWED THE GUIDELINES
APPROVED BY THE CPC LAST YEAR WITH RESPECT TO
EVALUATIONS. HE FELT THAT A FAIR AMOUNT OF TECHNICAL
ASSISTANCE WAS COVERED BY OTHER SUBPROGRAMS. HE
COMPLAINED THAT THE EVER-INCREASING DEMAND FOR NARRATIVES
AND EVALUATIONS WAS A DRAIN ON THE SECRETARIAT. IN
RESPONSE TO US, HE POINTED TO OUTPUT #8 IN THE REPORT
AS COVERING TECHNICAL COOPERATION.

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5. USSR STRESSED THAT IT WAS THE DUTY OF
INTERGOVERNMENTAL BODIES TO DECIDE WHICH PROGRAMS
BE ELIMINATED AND THAT IT WOULD NEVER AGREE TO ANY
OTHER APPROACH. UGANDA OPINED THAT THE EVALUATION
DID NOT MAKE USEFUL JUDGEMENTS AS TO THE IMPACT OF
PROGRAMS. BELGIUM SAID THAT SOME WAY MUST BE FOUND TO
BETTER DISTRIBUTE THE WORK OF BODIES. THE ACC HAD
FAILED TO ACHIEVE THE GOAL OF BETTER COORDINATION
THROUGH THE BETTER DISTRIBUTION OF WORK. JOINT
PLANNING, ALTHOUGH COMPLICATED, WOULD BE ONE SOLUTION.

6. TURNING TO SUB-PROGRAM 1, (POPULAR PARTICIPATION
AND INSTITUTIONAL DEVELOPMENT), BELGIUM QUESTIONED
AS TO WHETHER THE SECRETARIAT REALLY THOUGHT THE UN
SHOULD PERFORM ACTIVITIES IN ALL AREAS OF THE
SUBPROGRAM. BELGIUM ALSO EXPRESSED SHOCK THAT PARA. 4
LINKED WOMEN WITH UNDERPRIVILEGED PEOPLE. THIS
QUESTION SHOULD REMAIN DISTINCT IN SUB-PROGRAM 4.

7. US SAID THAT THE ACTIVITIES WERE TOO WIDELY DISPERSED
AND LACKED DEFINITION. WITH RESPECT TO PARA. 56, US
ASKED AS TO THE EXTENT OF CONSULTATIONS BETWEEN CSDHA

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AND OPI ON THE COLLECTION, DISTRIBUTION, AND
EVALUATION OF CSDHA PUBLICATIONS. (THIS QUESTION HAD
TO BE REPEATED AND FINALLY ELICITED ANSWER. SEE
PARA. L3.) PARA. 50 DID NOT SPECIFICALLY
INDICATE THE IMPACT OF PROJECTS, A SHORTCOMING
THROUGHOUT THE SUBPROGRAM. BELGIUM VOICED STRONG
SUPPORT OF THE LATTER POINT.

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8. KENYA NOTED THAT PARA 83 SHOWED A MARKED DECREASE
IN FELLOWSHIPS FROM 1974 TO 1977 AND WANTED TO KNOW
THE REASON WHY. DESMOND RESPONDED THAT NO SURPLUS
RESOURCES WERE AVAILABLE TO CSDHA FOR FELLOWSHIPS
SINCE THEY COME FROM OFFICE OF TECHNICAL COOPERATION
(OTC) FUNDS.

9. UK ASKED IF THERE WERE ANY PROGRAMS UNDER
SUB-PROGRAM 1 PERTAINING TO DEVELOPMENT WHICH WOULD
BE UNDERTAKEN BY OTHER DIVISIONS OF ESA.

10. IN REPLY, DESMOND SAID THE EVALUATION NEVER
MEANT TO IMPLY THAT ANY SUB-PROGRAM WAS LESS IMPORTANT
THAN ANY OTHER. SUB-PROGRAM 1 WAS DIFFERENT ONLY IN THAT
IT CONTAINED A MORE
CROSS-SECTORAL AND COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH.
CONTINUING, HE SAID THE 1980-83 MTP WOULD MAKE A
GREATER EFFORT TO INTERMESH QUESTIONS PERTAINING TO
SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT. THIS WOULD BE
PARTICULARLY TRUE WITH RESPECT TO RURAL DEVELOPMENT.

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11. ACTING ASSISTANT DIRECTOR ERGUN OF THE SOCIAL
DEVELOPMENT BRANCH SAID THE CENTER HAD THREE FUNCTIONS:
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1.) AN ADVOCACY FUNCTION PERTAINING TO THE SOCIAL
DIMENSIONS OF POLICY DECISIONS, 2.) THE PROMOTION OF
INTERESTS OF SPECIAL GROUPS E.G. YOUTH, ELDERLY,
AND 3.) THE PREPARATION OF REPORTS FOR LEGISLATIVE
BODIES. THE CENTER, FAR FROM DUPLICATING WORK, WAS
A COORDINATIVE AGENCY WHICH TOOK AN OVERALL VIEW
ON MATTERS SUCH AS AGING. AS FOR THE 20P REDUCTION
IN FUNDING EXERCISE, ERGUN SAID THAT IN SOME CASES
AN ENTIRE PROGRAM COULD BE ELIMINATED IF NECESSARY,
BUT BECAUSE OF THE NATURE OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT
ACTIVITIES; I.E. THEIR INTERDEPENDENCE, THE
ABOLITION OF ONE PROGRAM ELEMENT WOULD COMPLETELY
ELIMINATE THE USEFULNESS OF ANOTHER ELEMENT.
THUS, 20P ACROSS THE BOARD, HYPOTHETICAL CUTS WERE
GIVEN INSTEAD OF COMPLETE ELIMINATION OF ELEMENTS.

12. US (CUNNINGHAM) SAID THE HYPOTHETICAL 20P
EXERCISE WAS ATTEMPT AT MAKING CSDHA REACH DECISIONS
AS TO PROGRAM PRIORITIES. A 20P ACROSS THE BOARD
REDUCTION WAS AN ATTEMPT TO AVOID MAKING HARD
DECISIONS ON PARTICULAR PROGRAMS AND WAS IN ANY CASE
UNREALISTIC BECAUSE EQUAL DISTRIBUTION OF REDUCTIONS
IS IMPRACTICAL. WITH RESPECT TO PARA. 56, US ASKED AS
TO THE EXTENT OF COORDINATION WITH OPI ON THE
QUESTION OF THE MORE SYSTEMATIC COLLECTION, DISTRIBUTION,
AND EVALUATION OF CSDHA BULLETINS.

13. IN REPLY, ERGUN REPEATED HIS PREVIOUS
EXPLANATION ON THE 20P ACROSS THE BOARD DECREASE.
DESMOND SAID THAT CSDHA HAD HELD BRIEF INFORMAL
CONSULTATIONS WITH OPI AND THAT THE LATTER THOUGHT
THE PROPOSAL IN PARA. 56 WAS REASONABLE. (THOUGH AN
EXPLANATION OF METHODOLOGY WAS REQUESTED ALSO, NONE
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WAS PROVIDED.)

14. TURNING TO CONSIDERATION OF SUB-PROGRAM 2
(SERVICES FOR SOCIAL INTEGRATION AND WELFARE) BELGIUM
SAID THE SUB-PROGRAM INDICATED THAT A SIGNIFICANT
DEGREE OF WORK WAS BEING DONE BY THE CENTER WHICH WAS
NOT IN ITS PURVIEW. HE CITED AS PROOF THE FACT THAT

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BOTH CSDHA AND ILO DEALT WITH THE SOCIAL WELFARE OF MIGRANT WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES. BELGIUM EMPHASIZED THAT THE UN SYSTEM SHOULD AIM AT SIMPLIFICATION AND THE ESSENTIALS. TECHNICAL WORK SHOULD BE LEFT TO THE SPECIALIZED AGENCIES. UGANDA DISAGREED THAT THE UN SHOULD LEAVE CERTAIN AREAS TO THE AGENCIES.

15. ERGUN AFFIRMED THAT THE CENTER SOUGHT TO AVOID DUPLICATION OF EFFORT. IN THE CASE OF MIGRANT WORKERS, THE CENTER'S INTERESTS DIFFERED FROM THOSE OF THE ILO IN THAT THE CENTER HAS DIRECT RESPONSIBILITY FOR THE SOCIAL WELFARE OF MIGRANT FAMILIES WHILE THE ILO IS INVOLVED IN MATTERS PERTAINING TO EMPLOYMENT, E.G. WAGES, SOCIAL SECURITY. REPLYING TO A US QUESTION, HE SAID THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR KEEPING ACCOUNT OF FELLOWSHIPS LIES OUTSIDE OF CSDHA'S PURVIEW.

16. US OBJECTED THAT PARAS. 124, 147, 149, 152 AND 179 IMPLIED THAT MORE TRAVEL AND MEETINGS WERE NEEDED TO PROMOTE COORDINATION. MOREOVER, PARA. 183 (UNDER FUTURE DIRECTIONS) CONTAINED STRONG ARGUMENT FOR INCREASED FUNDING, WHICH APPEARED DIRECTLY RELATED

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TO SUGGESTIONS THAT THERE SHOULD BE MORE MEETINGS AND MORE TRAVEL. THIS SEEMED WEAK JUSTIFICATION FOR HOLDING MORE MEETINGS. "US, RECALLING EARLIER BELGIAN CRITICISM OF GROWING COORDINATION/TRAVEL SYNDROME IN UN AND UN AGENCIES, SAID IT LOOKED

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UNFAVORABLY BOTH UPON INCREASES IN TRAVEL AND EFFORT
OF SECRETARIAT TO GAIN IMPLIED ENDORSEMENT OF CPC
FOR IT BY MANNER IN WHICH SUGGESTIONS AND FUTURE
DIRECTIONS HAD IN THIS INSTANCE BEEN JUXTAPOSED,
A PRESENTATION CONTRARY TO THE PURPOSE OF THE EXERCISE."
USSR ENDORSED US STATEMENT WHILE GHANA VERY CRITICALLY
ASKED WHY UN ALWAYS TIES INCREASED TRAVEL SO CLOSELY
TO PROGRAM DEVELOPMENT.

17. MOVING ON TO SUB-PROGRAM 3 (CRIME PREVENTION AND
CRIMINAL JUSTICE), BELGIUM INQUIRED AS TO WHAT
DETERMINED THE PROFILE OF PERSONS WHO PARTAKE IN
COURSES AND SEMINARS. (PARA. 256). BELGIUM WAS
ALSO CONCERNED THAT CRIME PREVENTION HAD A LOWER
PRIORITY BECAUSE OF LESS INTEREST IN IT. REFERRING
TO PARA. 262, US ASKED WHAT CRITERIA UNDP HAD USED
TO DECIDE FOR WHICH CRIME PREVENTION PROGRAMS TO CUT
SUPPORT. FURTHERMORE, THE IDEA EXPRESSED IN PARA. 264
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THAT NOTHING COULD BE TERMINATED IF FUNDING WAS
REDUCED BY 20P FOR THE SUB-PROGRAM WAS AN ATTEMPT
TO EVADE THE PURPOSE OF THE EXERCISE. USSR REGISTERED
ITS OPINION THAT THE CRIME PREVENTION AND JUSTICE
BRANCH HAD AN UNJUSTIFIED PLACE IN CSDHA.

18. IN REPLY TO BELGIUM, DESMOND SAID THAT A DESIRED
PROFILE WAS INCLUDED IN THE AIDES-MEMOIRES SENT OUT
WHEN REQUESTING PERSONS FOR COURSES AND SEMINARS BUT
THAT THE PERSONS RECOMMENDED BY GOVERNMENTS DID NOT
ALWAYS MATCH THE PROFILE. RESPONDING TO THE US, HE
SAID THERE WAS A GENERAL DECLINE IN UNDP FINANCIAL
SUPPORT BECAUSE OF THE UNDP FINANCIAL CRISIS, BUT
GAVE NO INDICATION HOW IT WAS DECIDED TO APPORTION
THOSE REDUCTIONS. DESMOND ALSO STATED THERE WERE
LEGISLATIVE MANDATES FOR ALL BUT 10P OF THE SUBPROGRAM.

19. SPEAKING ON SUB-PROGRAM 4 (INTEGRATION OF
WOMEN IN DEVELOPMENT, UK QUERIED AS TO THE REAL
IMPACT OF THE SUB-PROGRAM AND REQUESTED SUGGESTIONS
FOR ITS IMPROVEMENT. WITH RESPECT TO THIS, UK
SUGGESTED THAT THE JIU CONDUCT AN EVALUATION OF
WOMEN'S PROGRAMS THAT WOULD BE REVIEWED BY THE CPC AT
ITS NEXT SESSION. BELGIUM SAID ALTHOUGH IT COULD
SUPPORT THE UK SUGGESTION, THE PROPOSAL WOULD DELAY
AMELIORATIVE MEASURES FOR A YEAR. SUCH MEASURES
SHOULD BE IMPLEMENTED WHEN THE MTP IS REVIEWED IN
AUGUST. BELGIUM ALSO WONDERED WHETHER IT WOULD NOT
BE BETTER IF THIS SUB-PROGRAM WERE "SITUATED CLOSER"
TO THE USYG FOR ECONOMIC AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS.

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20. US ASKED WHAT PERCENTAGE OF THE VOLUNTARY FUND WAS CHARGED TO OVERHEAD COSTS. WITH RESPECT TO PARAS.
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291 AND 312 (SUGGESTIONS FOR IMPROVEMENTS AND SATISFYING USERS' NEEDS) THE US WANTED TO KNOW WHAT THESE IMPROVEMENTS WOULD BE. WITH RESPECT TO THE ARGUMENTS IN PARA 327 THAT THE SUB-PROGRAM SHOULD HAVE MORE THAN A 20P INCREASE IN FUNDING, THE WOMEN'S BRANCH SHOULD PUT ITS HOUSE IN ORDER BEFORE MAKING SUCH REQUESTS.

21. IN RESPONSE DESMOND SAID THE ONLY OVERHEAD COSTS COVERED BY THE FUND WERE FOR TWO POSTS AND CERTAIN TRAVEL. HE SAID THAT STATEMENTS IN THE REPORT ABOUT THE NEED FOR CLOSE COLLABORATION WITH OTHER BODIES MAY HAVE BEEN UNSOPHISITCATED BUT THEY WERE AN HONEST PLEA FOR GREATER COOPERATION. HE ALSO NOTED THAT THE IDEA THAT CSDHA WOULD BECOME THE FOCAL POINT FOR RESEARCH ON WOMEN'S MATTERS DID NOT MEAN IT WOULD ACTUALLY UNDERTAKE THE RESEARCH BUT ONLY COORDINATE IT. WITH RESPECT TO PARA. 307, THE $2 MILLION IN FIELD PROJECT ALLOCATIONS WAS MADE SUBSEQUENT TO CONSULTATIONS WITH THE VARIOUS REGIONAL COMMISSIONS.

22. WITH RESPECT TO SUB-PROGRAM 5 (WOMEN AND PEACE), USSR CLAIMED THIS WAS A VERY IMPORTANT SUB-PROGRAM WHICH SHOULD BE STRENGTHENED. US SAID THE FAILURE OF THIS SUB-PROGRAM TO ADDRESS ITSELF TO THE QUESTION OF CURTAILMENT, TERMINATION, OR EXPANSION OF ACTIVITIES WAS UNACCEPTABLE. BELGIUM ASKED WHAT THE CENTER PROPOSED TO DO WITH RESPECT TO PARA. 355 (QUALITY OF IMPACT OF REPORTS TO POLICY-MAKING BODIES).

23. DESMOND, RESPONDING TO BELGIUM, SAID CSDHA HAD PUT TOGETHER A COMPENDIUM OF NATIONAL MACHINERY

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AND INSTITUTIONAL STRUCTURES TO DEAL WITH THE
ADVANCEMENT OF WOMEN.

24. DURING DISCUSSION OF SUB-PROGRAM 6 (EUROPEAN
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT), GHANA QUERIED AS TO THE EXTENT
THE CENTER COORDINATED ITS ACTIVITIES WITH CSCE.
USSR OPINED THAT THE CPC SHOULD HAVE NOTHING TO DO
WITH THE 6TH PLANNING CONFERENCE FOR IT WAS A QUESTION
TO BE CONSIDERED BY THE NEXT GA. NETHERLANDS SAID
STRONG POLITICAL SUPPORT EXISTED AMONG MANY EUROPEANS
FOR THE ESD PROGRAM. AUSTRIA CONCURRED WITH THIS
AND SAID IT WOULD LIKE TO SEE CONTINUED FINANCIAL
SUPPORT OF THE PROGRAM. BELGIUM NOTED THERE WAS
NO ECE ALLOCATION FOR SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT. US
SAID PARAGRAPH III (2) OF UNGA RESOLUTION 32/206
ELIMINATED ANY BASIS FOR CPC TO RECONSIDER PREVIOUS
YEAR'S RECOMMENDATION TO ELIMINATE REGULAR BUDGET
- ADDITIONAL TO FUNDING OF ECE - SUPPORT FOR THIS
PROGRAM. (INDIA HAD MADE SAME POINT A FEW DAYS
PREVIOUSLY.)

25. CHAIRMAN, IN SUMMARIZING THE DISCUSSION ON THE
SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT EVALUATION SAID THAT THE COMMENTS
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CENTERED ON THE FACT THAT THE REPORT WAS: 1.) VERY
LONG, 2.) TOO MUCH A COMPILATION OF OUTPUTS WITHOUT
REGARD TO COMPONENT RELATIONSHIPS AND 3.) AN
ILLUSTRATION OF THE WEAKNESS OF INTERNAL EVALUATION.
SPECIFIC TARGETS HAD TO BE IDENTIFIED AGAINST WHICH
OUTPUTS COULD BE MEASURED. FURTHERMORE, SCATTERED
ELEMENTS SHOULD BE BROUGHT TOGETHER. WITH RESPECT
TO INDICATORS, THEY ATTEMPTED TO DEFINE WHAT HAD BEEN
USEFUL BUT THEY GENERALLY TOOK TOO POSITIVE A VIEW OF
PROGRAM PERFORMANCE. THE "20P EXERCISE" WITH
RESPECT TO FUNDING WAS ALSO UNSATISFACTORY.

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26. AFTER SOME DISCUSSION, DURING WHICH US SUPPORTED EARLIER PROPOSAL BY CHAIRMAN TO APPOINT SPECIAL RAPPORTEURS TO OVERSEE PROCESS, THE CHAIR DECIDED TO DEFER THE QUESTION OF THE CONSOLIDATION OF SOCIAL DEVELOPMENT LEGISLATION TO THE AUGUST SESSION.

27. CORRECTION LAST SENTENCE OF PARA 12 "US AGAIN ASKED AS" VICE "US ASKED AS." CORRECTION PARA 16 - DELETE THIRD SENTENCE AND QUOTATION MARKS AROUND NEXT SENTENCE. CORRECTION SECOND SENTENCE OF PARA 21 "MAY HAVE BEEN UNSOPHISTICATED" VICE "MAY HAVE BEEN UNSOPHISITCATED." YOUNG

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